

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-15 as follows.

A clean copy of the amended claims is included below. A marked up copy of the amended claims is included in Appendix A.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air,
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency, and
7 at least one stop for abruptly impeding the movability of the at least one
8 vibrating element in at least one position, the at least one vibrating element being
9 arranged to increase sound volume and base frequency with the intensity of an airflow
10 through the passage.

1 2. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis according to claim 1,
2 wherein the at least one vibrating element is designed as a flexible lip projecting into or
3 before the passage.

1 3. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to according to claim 1,
2 wherein the vibrating element projects from a substantially immovable connection to
3 the housing in the passage, and wherein the stop is located opposite a portion of the
4 vibrating element spaced from said immovable connection.

1 4. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to claim 3, wherein the stop is
2 located opposite a portion of the vibrating element located near a free end thereof.

1 5. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to according to claim 1,
2 wherein the vibrating element, in a condition of rest, abuts against said stop.

1 6. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air, and
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency, wherein the vibrating element, in the
7 condition of rest, abuts against a stop with pretension.

1 7. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air, and
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency, wherein a stop is formed by a second
7 vibrating element.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to according to claim 1,
2 wherein the vibrating element is designed as a lip projecting from a wall of the
3 passage, a free end of said lip, in the condition of rest, being directed in a direction
4 substantially parallel to the passage.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air, and
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency, wherein the at least one vibrating element
7 comprising two mutually substantially identical lips which, in the condition of rest, abut
8 against each other.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air,
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency,
7 at least one stop for impeding vibration of the vibrating element, and
8 at least one passage along the at least one vibrating element for passing air
9 along the at least one vibrating element in any position of the vibrating element.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to according to claim 1,
2 wherein the vibrating element is arranged to carry out displacements, resulting in air
3 pulses, of which the first derivative shows discontinuities.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to according to claim 1,
2 wherein the vibrating element is arranged to generate vibrations with a frequency
3 spectrum of sinusoids comprising a base frequency and frequencies above, of which
4 the intensity is lower by 10-14 dB/octave.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A voice-producing prosthesis, comprising:
2 a housing for placement in a passage between the esophagus or throat and an
3 upper region of the trachea,
4 a passage through said housing for passing air, and
5 at least one vibrantly movable vibrating element for vibrating air to produce
6 sound having at least one base frequency, wherein the at least one vibrating element
7 comprises a hollow space filled with a fluid or a soft substance.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis according to claim 13, wherein the fluid
2 is a liquid.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A one-way valve for placement in a wall between the
2 esophagus and the trachea of a patient, comprising a housing with a passage, a
3 closing body for closing said passage, and a sound generating prosthesis located in
4 the passage.